



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:
Goodwin and Din

Docket No.: 2519

Serial No: 09/302,863

Group Art Unit: 1646

Filed: April 30, 1999

Examiner: D. Romeo

For: METHODS OF USE OF THE TACI/TACI-L INTERACTION

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 20, 2000, in which the Examiner restricted claims 1-14 of the above-captioned patent application into five (5) different groups of inventions, Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1, 4 and 7-10, drawn to a method of measuring binding of TACI/TACI-L, for examination. This restriction requirement is partially traversed, as explained more fully below. With respect to the election of species requirement, Applicants elect, without traverse, an antibody for initial examination purposes.

Applicants also respectfully request entry of the following amendments.

AMENDMENTS

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-14, without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

- 15. (new)* A method of screening a test compound to identify its ability to affect the interaction of TACI with TACI-L, the method comprising the steps of:
- a. forming a composition comprising a TACI protein, a TACI-L protein, and the test compound; and
 - b. assaying for the level of interaction of the TACI protein and the TACI-L protein;